IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Applicant(s) : Ackermann et al.

Serial No. : TBD

Filed : March 8, 2005

Title : METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR

DETERMINING THE TOPOLOGY OF A

MODULAR ANALYSIS SYSTEM

Docket

: WP 21387 US

Art Unit

:TBD

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 CFR §§1.56, 1.97 & 1.98

Applicants submit herewith patents, publications, and other information of which they are aware, which they believe may be material, as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b), to the examination of this application and in respect of which there may be a duty to disclose in accordance with 37 CFR §1.56(a). While the information referred to in this Information Disclosure Statement may be material pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56(b), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement is not intended to, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(h), constitute an admission that any patent, publication, or other information referred to is, or is considered to be, material to the patentability of this invention. No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 & 103, and Applicants reserves the right, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.131 or otherwise, to establish otherwise. Further, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(g), the filing of this Statement should not be construed as a statement that a search has been made or that no other material information exists.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within the period set forth in 37 CFR §1.97(b) because it accompanies the new patent application submitted herewith.

10/527138 or Pec'd PCT/PTO 0 8 MAR 2005

Serial No. TBD Docket No. WP21387 US

The Office has waived the requirement pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(2)(i) for submitting a copy of each cited U.S. patent and each U.S. patent application publication for all U.S. national patent applications filed after June 30, 2003 and for all international applications that have entered the national stage under 35 USC §371 after June 30, 2003. Therefore, no copies of each cited U.S. patent and each cited U.S. patent application publication are enclosed, but the cited U.S. patents and the cited U.S. patent application publications are listed on PTO/SB/08A. Also enclosed is a copy of the International Search Report mailed July 22, 2004.

No additional fees are believed to be necessary, however, should any fees be deemed required, the Commissioner is authorized to charge such fees to Deposit Account 02-2958, but is not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

ROCHE DIAGNOSTICS OPERATIONS, INC.

Date: 8 March 2005

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Appro

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Substitute for form 1449A/P1O				Application Number	TBD		
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE				Filing Date	March 4, 2005		
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT			PLICANT	First Named Inventor	Ackermann et al.		
				Group Art Unit	TBD		
(use as many sheets as necessary)			cessary)	Examiner Name	TBD		
Sheet	1	of	1	Attornev Docket Number	WP 21387 US		

			U.S. PATEN	T DOCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials*	Cite No.1	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (If known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	
		5,404,460	4/4/95	Thomsen et al.		
		6,330,229	12/11/01	Jain et al.		
		5,737,319	4/7/98	Croslin et al.		
	-	5,628,027	5/6/97	Belmont		
			<u> </u>			

Examiner initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date	Name of Patentee or Application of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T*
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁶ (if known)	MM-DD-YYYY			
		WO 92/04675	3/19/92			
		DE 101 34 885 A1	2/6/03			
		,				

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	

EXAMINER: Initial in reference considered, whether or not challon is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through challon in not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take 2.0 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.s. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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